

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 113805

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS SUMMARY, MAY 15

1. NYT (PAGE 3) HEADLINE "GROMYKO CHIDES KISSINGER ON
LARGE DEFENSE BUDGET" BY CHRISTOPHER WREN, DATELINED
MOSCOW. ARTICLE REPORTS ON GROMYKO SPEECH, POINTING
OUT THAT IN AN APPARENT DEPARTURE FROM THE PREPARED TEXT,
FOREIGN MINISTER REBUKED KISSINGER FOR HAVING DEFENDED
AN INCREASED MILITARY BUDGET WHILE, AT SAME TIME,
ADVOCATING RELAXATION OF TENSION WITH USSR. HE ALSO
CRITICIZED STEP-BY-STEP DIPLOMACY IN MIDDLE EAST AND
APPEARED TO HARDEN SOVIET LINE TOWARD ISRAEL. HE
INDICATED USSR WILLING TO DO ITS PART TO ADVANCE DETENTE
AND EMPHASIZED SIGNIFICANCE OF BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO U.S.
(BRIEFER STORIES IN SUN AND WP WITH SIMILAR HEADLINES.)
(SUBJECT DID NOT COME UP AT DEPT'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING.)

2. WP (PAGE 3) ARTICLE HEADLINED "ASTRONAUTS TELL OF
HUGE SOVIET SPACEPORT" REPORTS STAFFORD'S BRIEFING AT
HOUSTON ON ASTRONAUTS' VISIT TO SOVIET SPACE CENTER,
INDICATING IT IS FOUR TIMES AS LARGE AS THE KENNEDY SPACE
CENTER AND HAS GIVEN RISE TO A NEW GROWING CITY OF
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LENINSK IN THE DESERT.

3. WP (PAGE 19) VICTOR ZORZA'S COLUMN "HANOI'S PAEANS
OF VICTORY" STATES HANOI CONTINUES TO FOLLOW NATIONALIST

LINE REFLECTING FEAR OF MOSCOW-PEKING COMPETITION FOR
INFLUENCE THERE WHICH MIGHT INFRINGE ON ITS OWN
INDEPENDENCE.

4. WP EDITORIAL HEADLINE "BROADCASTING TO CLOSED
SOCIETIES" STATES RFE AND RADIO LIBERTY HAVE SUCCESSFULLY
WEATHERED TRANSITION FROM CIA SPONSORSHIP TO OPEN
OPERATION AND RESPONSIBLE PROGRAMMING.

5. SUN (PAGE 5) HEADLINE "HOMETOWN MUSEUM GLORIFIES
STALIN, IGNORES FAILINGS" BY MICHAEL PARKS, DATELINED
GORI, REPORT ON TOWN WHERE STALIN HELD IN HIGHEST ESTEEM.

6. CSM EDITORIAL HEADLINED "WELCOME, RUSSIANS" WELCOMES
PEACEFUL NAVAL EXCHANGE.

7. CSM (PAGE 3) HEADLINE "US, SOVIET SHARE ART
TREASURES" DATELINE LENINGRAD, BASED ON INTERVIEWS WITH
SUSLOV OF HERMITAGE AND JOHN HOWAT OF METROPOLITAN
MUSEUM.

8. CSM (PAGE 6) PEKING APPEARS BENT ON HEADING OFF
SOVIET GAINS IN INFLUENCE IN VIETNAM.

9. CSM (PAGE 15) HEADLINE "PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST
REAFFIRMS 'REVOLUTION'", DATELINED MOSCOW, REPORTS ON
CUNHAL INTERVIEW IN PRAVDA, STATING HIS VIEW THAT LAST
MONTH'S ELECTIONS DID NOT REVERSE THE REVOLUTIONARY
PROCESS IN PORTUGAL. KISSINGER

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